

MARVEL

#5 IN A TWELVE ISSUE LIMITED SERIES

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THE ETERNALS

75¢
U.K. 50p
CAN. 95¢

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FEB



SEE:



"FINE ART IS THAT IN WHICH
THE HAND, THE HEAD, AND
THE HEART OF MAN GO
TOGETHER." -- JOHN RUSKIN,
THE TWO PATHS.

I AM DONE, MY LORD. I HOPE THE WORK MEETS YOUR CRITERIA.



A MOMENT--YES, OH, YES, INDEED! IT HAS SOMETHING OF PLOKCHREL OF THE HUNDRETH DYNASTY, BUT THE FIRE YOU BRING TO IT IS YOUR OWN!



IT MEETS THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION THEN?

YRDISIS, CHILD OF THE GODS-- YOU ARE A TRUE ARTIST, AND VALUED FOR YOUR ANGER AND RAGE AS MUCH AS FOR YOUR SKILL WITH A TRANSFECTOR. BUT I HAVE NOT GIVEN YOU CAUSE TO BE IRRITATED WITH ME.



YOUR PARDON, LORD GHAUR. THE PROCESS LEAVES ME-- TIRED.

IT IS FORGOTTEN--FOR THOUGH YOUR RAGE IS EMBODIED HERE WITH MASTERY--IT IS THE RAGE ALL THOSE OF THE RACE OF DEVIANTS SHARE!

WHILE OUR BROTHERS, THE HUMANS AND THE ETERNALS, BASK IN THE GLORY OF THE SUN, WE REMAIN BELOW--WITH THE CURSE OF OUR GENETIC INSTABILITY, OUR MEMORIES OF OPPRESSION, AND OUR PURPOSES.



AND BE IT KNOWN THAT YOU, YRDISIS, THROUGH YOUR ART, REMIND THIS PRIEST OF ALL THREE.

BUT YOU ARE TIRED, AND I--HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO. YOU HAVE LEAVE TO GO.

THANK YOU, LORD GHAUR.



I AM PLEASED THAT MY WORK FINDS FAVOR IN YOUR EYES.

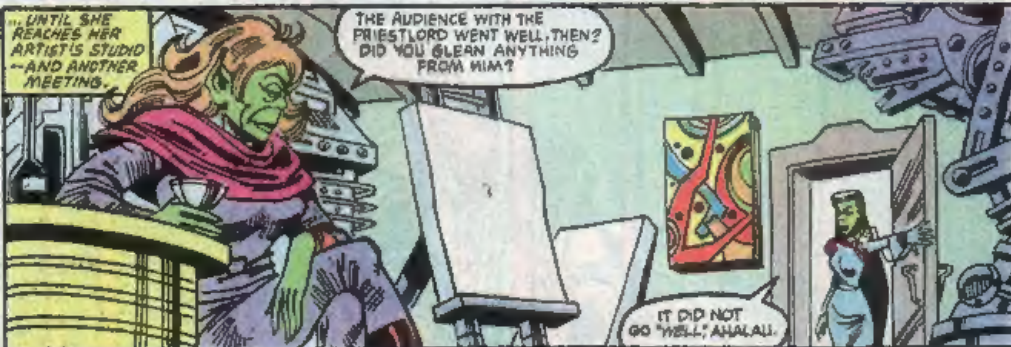


AND AS SHE WALKS THROUGH THE STREETS OF SUB-OCEAN-FLOOR LEMURIA, HOME TO THE RACE OF DEVIANTS, YRDISIS'S PACE QUICKENS, HER FACE FLUSHES, FISTS CLENCH...



...UNTIL SHE REACHES HER ARTIST'S STUDIO --AND ANOTHER MEETING.

THE AUDIENCE WITH THE PRIESTLORD WENT WELL, THEN? DID YOU GLEAN ANYTHING FROM HIM?



IT DID NOT GO "WELL," AHAAU.

BUT YES--HE WAS FINGERING A CRYSTAL KEY AS HE SPOKE ABOUT HIS PURPOSES.

THAT IS SOMETHING AT LEAST.



YOU ARE VALUABLE TO UY-YRDISIS.

DO NOT FORGET THAT WE OF THE PARTY OF BROTHER KRO NEED YOU. IF WE ARE TO **BREAK** THE POWER OF THE PRIESTS AND STOP THEIR DARK PLANS, AND WE ARE PLEASED THAT ONE OF OUR GREATEST ARTISTS HAS JOINED OUR CAUSE.

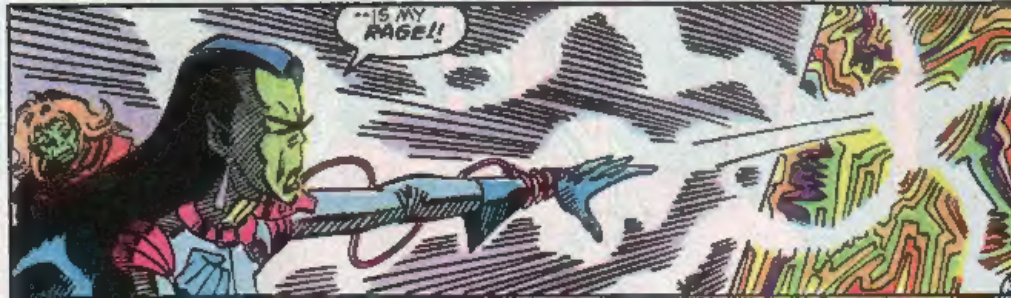


MY ART--MY MASTERY--MY TECHNIQUE--**GARBAGE!**

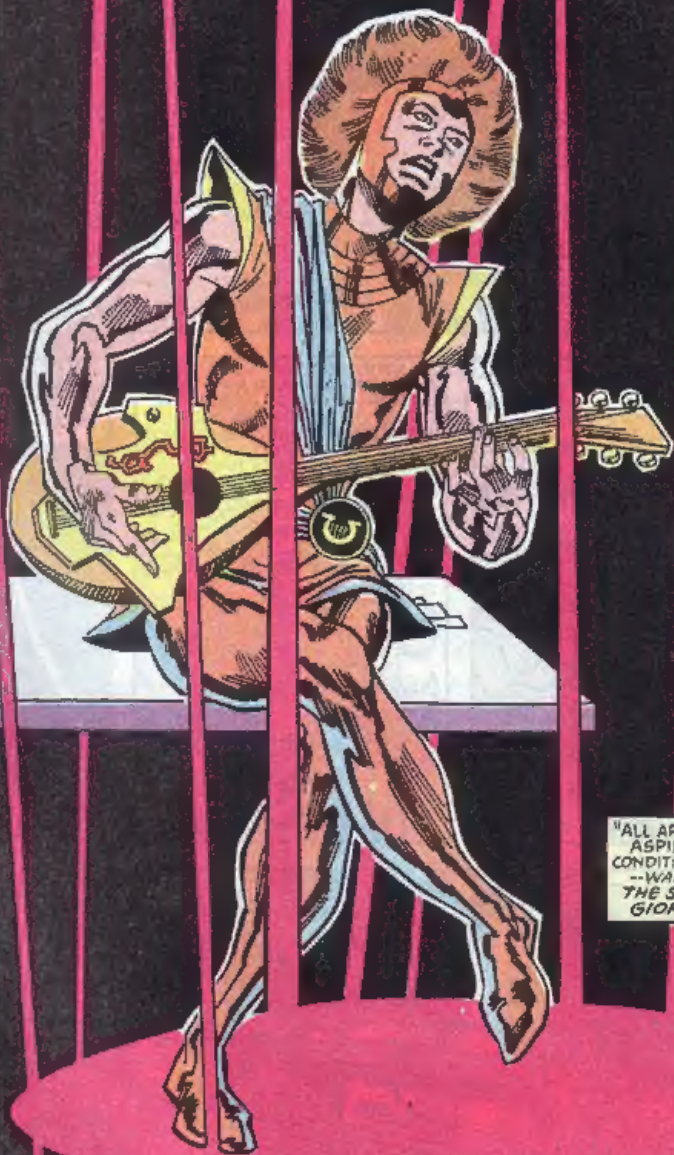
ALL I'M GOOD FOR--



--IS MY RAGE!!



LISTEN!



"ALL ART CONSTANTLY
ASPIRES TO THE
CONDITION OF MUSIC."
--WALTER PATER,
THE SCHOOL OF
GIORGIONE.

WHEN THE ETERNAL KORYPHOS BEGAN THIS COMPOSITION, TIBERIUS WAS EMPEROR OF ROME.



EVEN TO PERFORM IT IN THIS PARTIAL STATE WOULD TAKE WELL OVER A YEAR -- BUT HE HAS THE TIME, AND THE SINGING STRINGS RECORD IT ALL.

LATELY, HE HAS BEEN DISTRACTED FROM HIS WORK -- FOR LATELY, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY DISTRACTIONS...

IN SUCH AS THE ONE WHICH CUTS THROUGH THE SHAFTS OF LIGHT WITH A ROUGH JANGLING.



NOW WHAT?



OH, IT'S YOU, THEN. WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I NEED YOU, KORYPHOS. PLEASE COME TO THE HALL OF JUDGMENT IN OLYMPIA AS SOON AS YOU CAN.

OF COURSE, RULER OF THE ETERNALS -- BUT WHY?

I HAVE BEEN ACCUSED OF TREASON AGAINST THE RACE OF ETERNALS...

WHAT?!

-- BY IKARIS OF THE POLAR ETERNALS!

WAIT! WHAT?!!



TREASON? BY IKARIS? OLD, GOOD-NATURED IKARIS?

SOMETHING IS WRONG HERE!



AND FOR ALL CONCERNED, I THINK I'D BETTER FIND OUT WHAT!

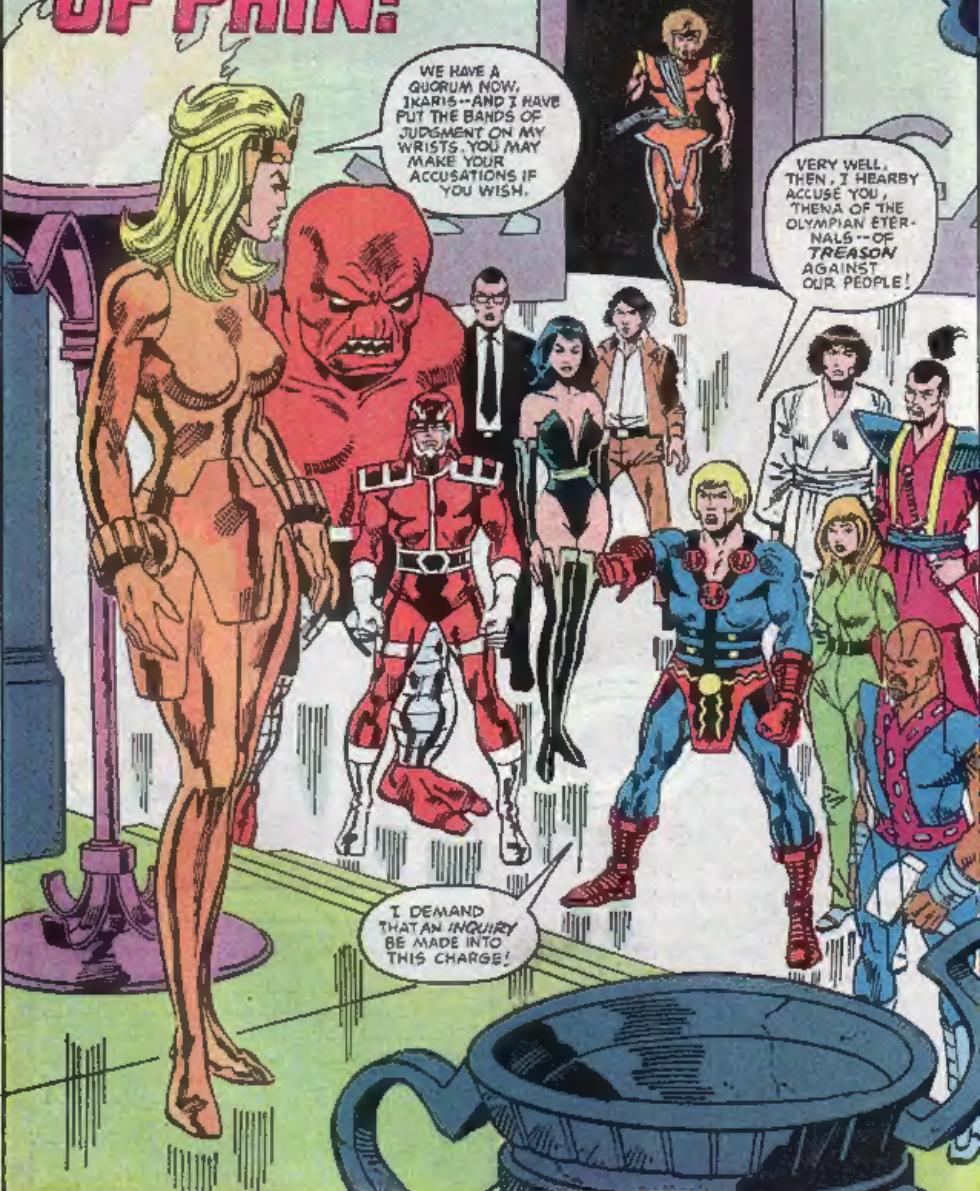


Strange events have exposed a startling fact, kept alive through the centuries only by myth and superstition — man is not alone on the evolutionary chain! He has shared the planet with two species unknown to him! Now, in a sudden burst of violence, the Deviants have risen from their domain beneath the sea to challenge all humanity! But mankind has unexpected allies —

Stan Lee
PRESENTS:

THE ETERNALS!

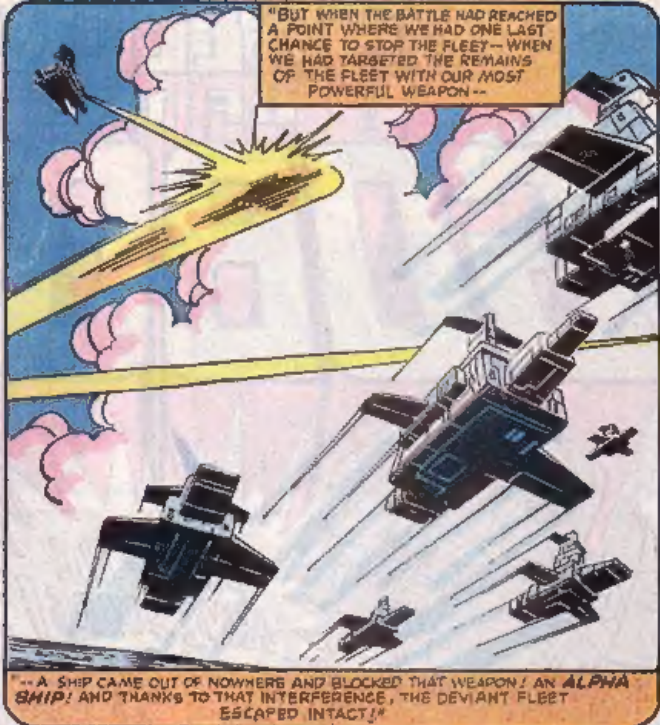
THE SECRET NAME OF PAIN!



PETER B. GILLIS WRITER SAL BUSCEMA ARTIST JOHN MORELLI & RICK PARKER LETTERERS GEORGE ROUSSOS COLORIST RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR JIM SHOOTER EDITOR IN CHIEF

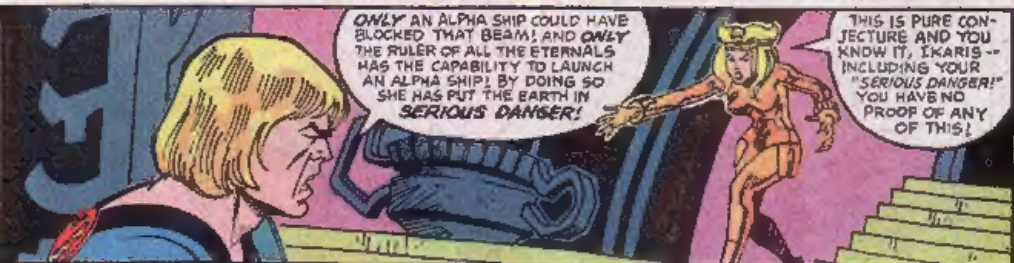
THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE THESE--
SINCE MOST OF OUR NUMBER LEFT
THE EARTH FOR DEEP SPACE, THE
RACE OF DEVIANTS DECIDED TO
MAKE THEIR MOVE AGAINST
US AND OUR BROTHER
HUMANS.

THEY LAUNCHED A MASSIVE
FLEET FROM THEIR CITY OF
LEMURIA BENEATH THE PACIFIC
--A FLEET WHICH WE EN-
GAGED IN NEUTRALIZING.



"BUT WHEN THE BATTLE HAD REACHED
A POINT WHERE WE HAD ONE LAST
CHANCE TO STOP THE FLEET-- WHEN
WE HAD TARGETED THE REMAINS
OF THE FLEET WITH OUR MOST
POWERFUL WEAPON--

--A SHIP CAME OUT OF NOWHERE AND BLOCKED THAT WEAPON! AN ALPHA
SHIP! AND THANKS TO THAT INTERFERENCE, THE DEVIANT FLEET
ESCAPED INTACT!"



ONLY AN ALPHA SHIP COULD HAVE
BLOCKED THAT BEAM! AND ONLY
THE RULER OF ALL THE ETERNALS
HAS THE CAPABILITY TO LAUNCH
AN ALPHA SHIP! BY DOING SO
SHE HAS PUT THE EARTH IN
SERIOUS DANGER!

THIS IS PURE CON-
JECTURE AND YOU
KNOW IT, IKARIS--
INCLUDING YOUR
"SERIOUS DANGER!"
YOU HAVE NO
PROOF OF ANY
OF THIS!



THEN YOU, **HARKAS!** I
CALL ON YOU! YOU WERE
WITH THENA HERE IN OLYMPIA
WHILE THE BATTLE WAS ON--
DID SHE LAUNCH THAT
ALPHA SHIP? **SPEAK!**

I WOULD
OBLIGE YOU,
IKARIS--



--BUT THE TESTIMONY OF A
DEVIANT MUTATE IS NOT
ADMISSABLE HERE...
EVEN ONE WHO NOW
RESIDES WITH THE
ETERNALS.

AND I WILL **NOT**
ABUSE THE TRUST OF ONE
WHO SAVED MY LIFE
AND HAS SHOWN ME
NOTHING BUT KINDNESS.



OKAY, KEEP YOUR SECRETS! WE ALL KNOW WHY THENA'S BEEN UNWILLING TO HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT A DEVIANT UPRISING -- WHY SHE STOPS US AT EVERY TURN!

IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S *IN LOVE* WITH ONE OF THEIR NUMBER-- NAMELY, THE WARLORD *KRO!*



IKARIS-- YOU ATTACK A GROUP OF DEVIANT SHIPS THAT MADE NO HOSTILE MOVES-- YOU DO SO WITHOUT ANY PERMISSION -- AND THEN YOU ACCUSE ME OF AN ABRUINATION.

WELL I AM *REAPER* OF THE ETERNALS OF EARTH-- HEIR TO THE THRONE AND POWER OF GREAT ZURAS--



-- AND I WILL NOT BE SLANDERED!!



BY THE SPACE GODS! SHE'S THROWN THE FOCUS OF MY HOLOGRAM- PROJECTION OFF!

BUT THAT MEANS SHE'S MOVED THE FOUNDATIONS OF OLYMPIA ITSELF!!



I'LL DO MORE THAN THAT BEFORE I'M THROUGH!

I'LL MAKE YOU SUFFER, IKARIS!

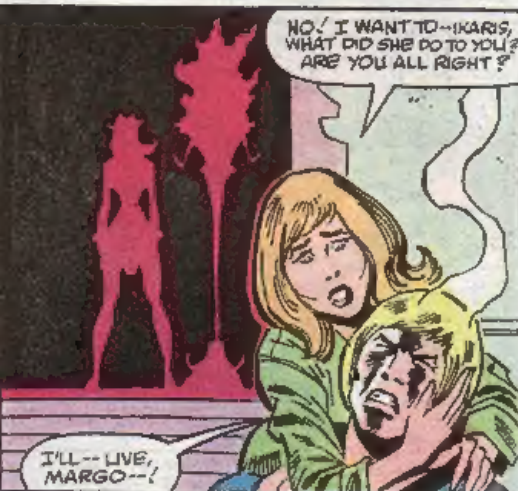


I'LL MAKE EVERY IMMORTAL MOLECULE IN YOUR BODY BURN. IKARIS! BURN!



IKARIS! WHAT'S SHE DOING TO YOU? IKARIS!

MARGO-- STAY BACK--!



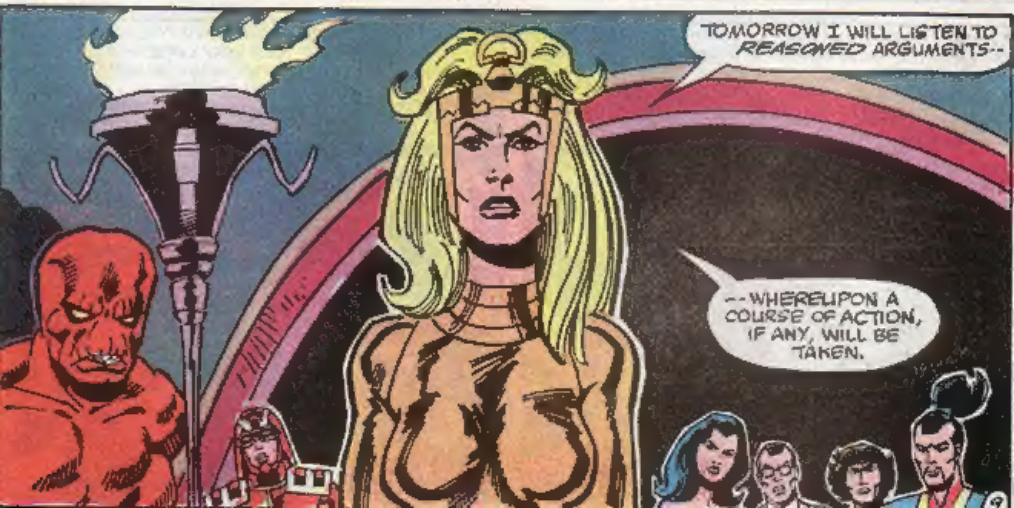
NO! I WANT TO--IKARIS, WHAT DID SHE DO TO YOU? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'LL-- LIVE, MARGO--!



YOUR PARDON, MARGO DAMIAN-- I DID NOT MEAN TO CAUSE YOU, OR ANY OF THE HUMANS HERE, ANY DISTRESS.

I KNOW YOU ARE IKARIS' LOVER.



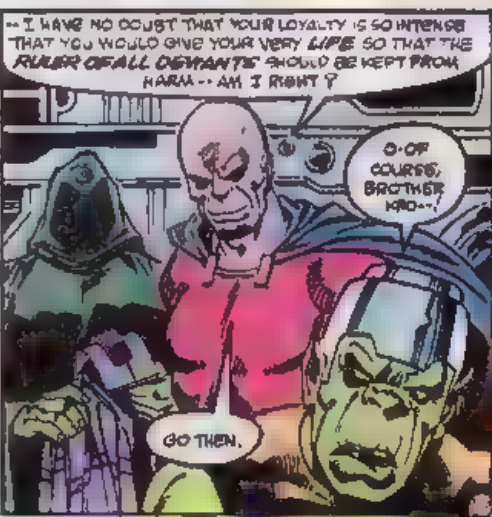
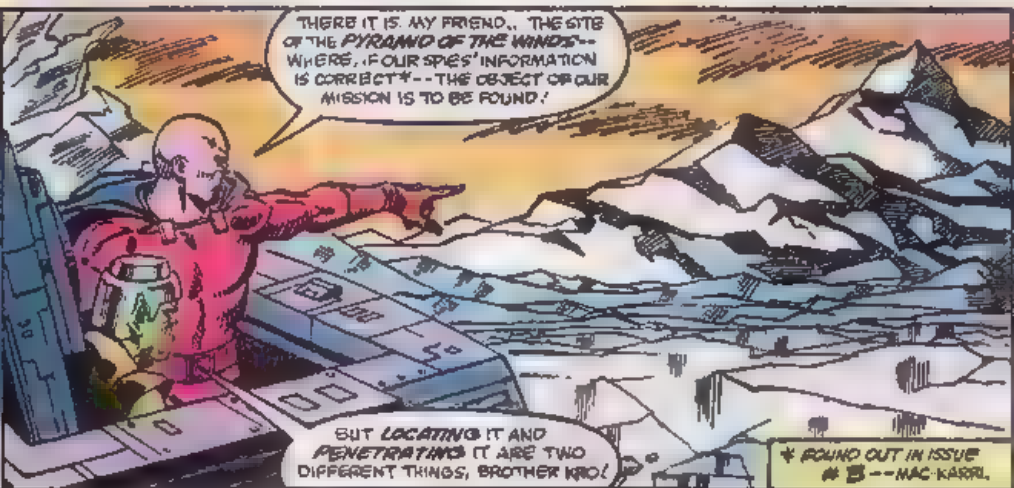
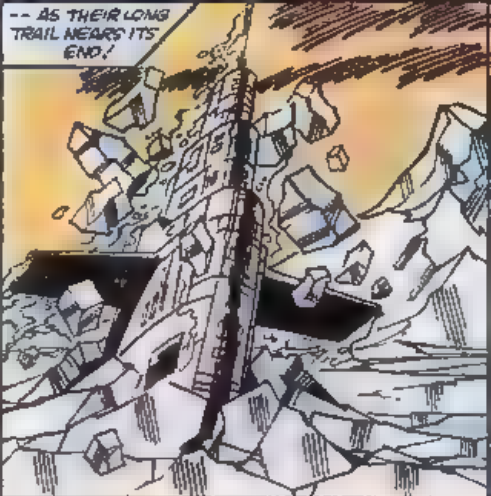
TOMORROW I WILL LISTEN TO REASONED ARGUMENTS--

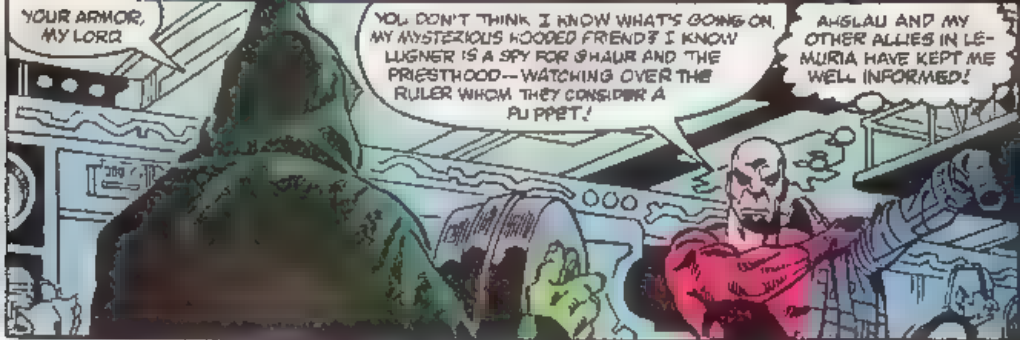
-- WHEREUPON A COURSE OF ACTION, IF ANY, WILL BE TAKEN.

MEANWHILE, TO THE NORTH, THE REMNANTS OF THE MUCH-DEBATED DEVIANT FLEET APPROACH THE POLAR ICECAP.



-- AS THEIR LONG TRAIL NEARS ITS END!





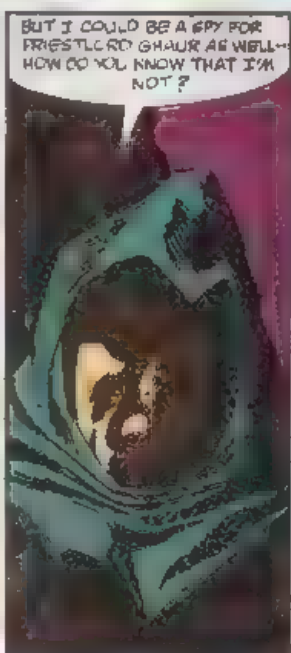
YOUR ARMOR,
MY LORD

YOU DON'T THINK I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
MY MYSTERIOUS HOODED FRIEND? I KNOW
LUGNER IS A SPY FOR SHAUR AND THE
PRIESTHOOD--WATCHING OVER THE
RULER WHOM THEY CONSIDER A
PUPPET!

ANSLAU AND MY
OTHER ALLIES IN LE-
MURIA HAVE KEPT ME
WELL INFORMED!



HE AND HIS FELLOWS ARE TRYING TO
KEEP ME FROM FINDING OUT WHAT
THIS WHOLE PESTHOOD-ORAINED
'HOLY MISSION' IS REALLY ABOUT!
WELL, I KNOW EVERY STRING THEY
ATTACHED TO THIS PUPPET AND
JUST HOW MUCH FORCE IS NEEDED
TO SNAP EACH OF THEM.



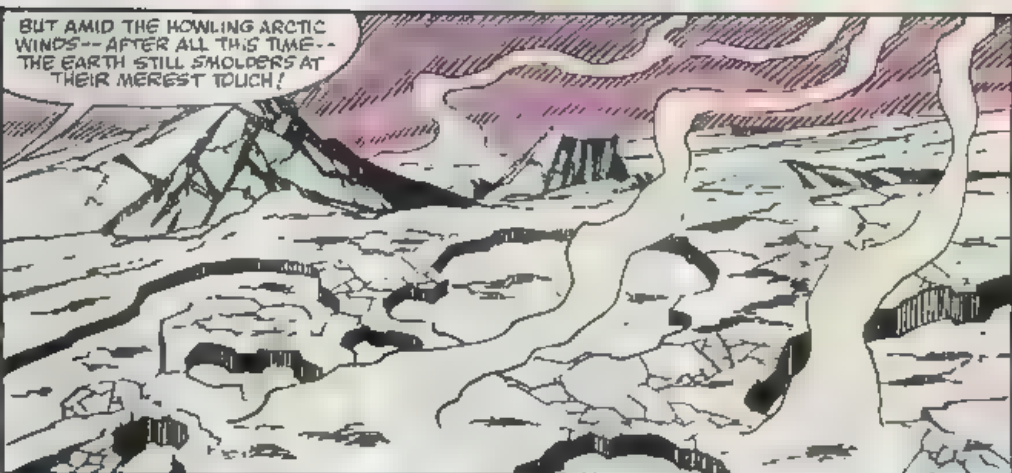
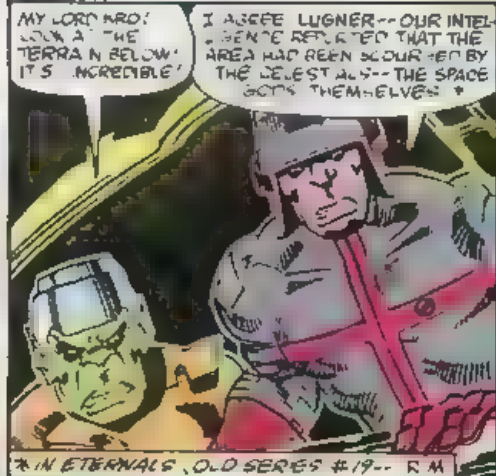
BUT I COULD BE A SPY FOR
PRIESTHOOD SHAUR AS WELL--
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT I'M
NOT?

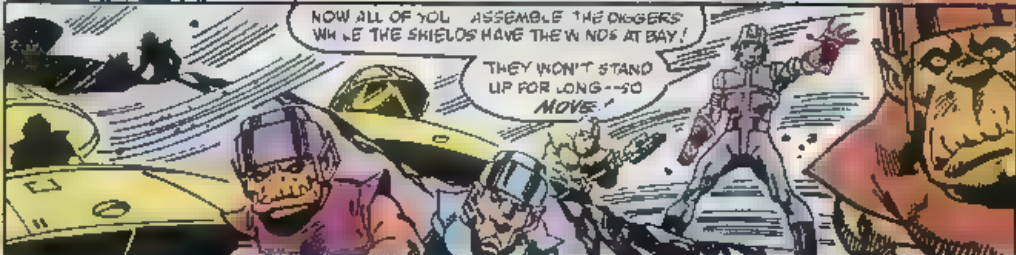


NO. YOU HAVE A
DIFFERENT SET OF
SECRETS, MY FRIEND.
AND THAT IS WHY I
LET YOU KEEP THEM--
FOR NOW.



AND NOW--
ALL CARRIERS
LIFT OFF!
PREPARE FOR
ASSAULT--ON
THE PYRAMID
OF THE
WINDS!





NOW ALL OF YOU ASSEMBLE THE DIGGERS
WHILE THE SHIELDS HAVE THE WINDS AT BAY!

THEY WON'T STAND
UP FOR LONG--SO
MOVE!

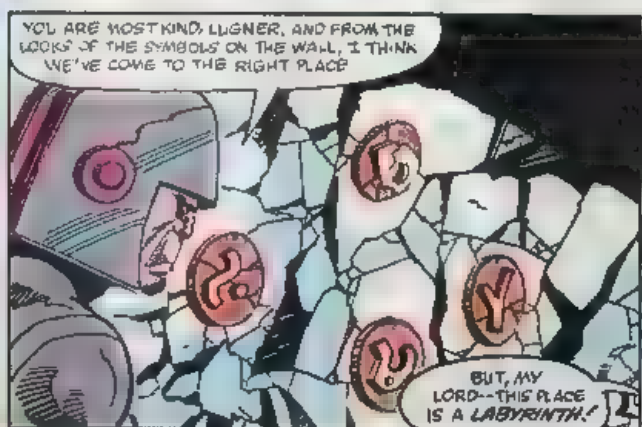


IT'S THE ONE WAY A PARTY WITHOUT
ETERNAL INVULNERABILITY CAN GET
TO THE PYRAMID-- UNDERGROUND!



AND THIS IS A STROKE OF LUCK!
WE'VE TAPPED INTO A SERIES
OF PRE-EXISTENT TUNNELS!

ALLOW ME TO
TAKE THE VANGUARD,
BROTHER KRO!



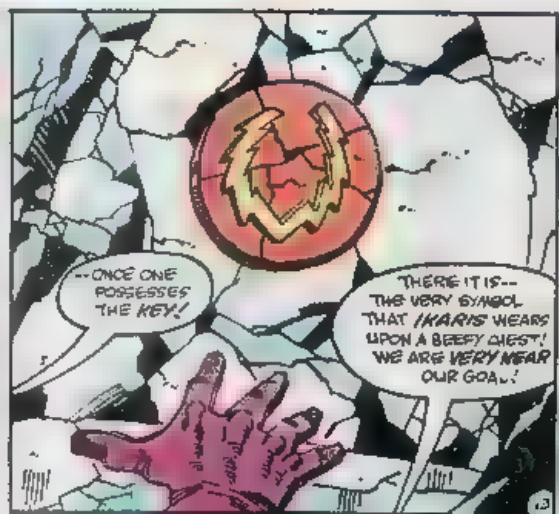
YOU ARE MOST KIND, LUGNER, AND FROM THE
LOOKS OF THE SYMBOLS ON THE WALL, I THINK
WE'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE

BUT, MY
LORD--THIS PLACE
IS A LABYRINTH!



AFTER DEALING WITH DEVIANTS FOR
A WHILE LUGNER, ONE BECOMES
RATHER GOOD AT LABYRINTHS!

AND
THEY BECOME
ESPECIALLY
EASY..

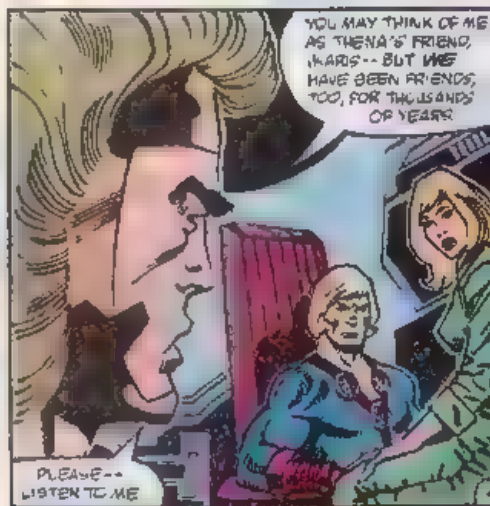
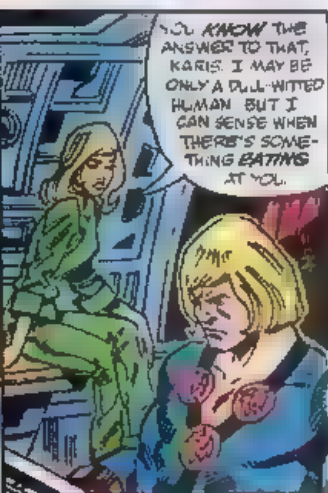


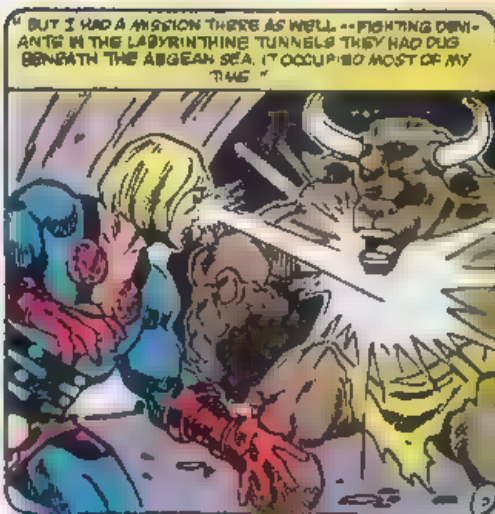
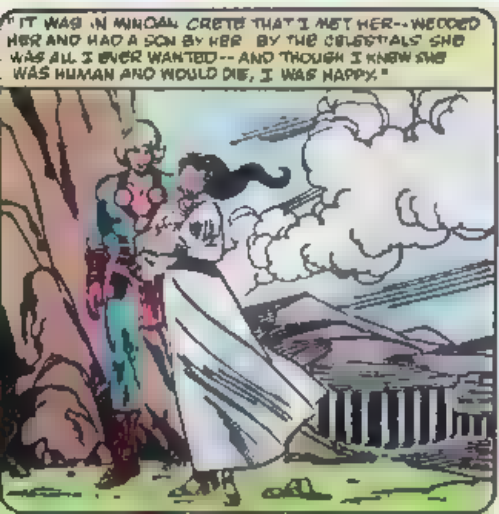
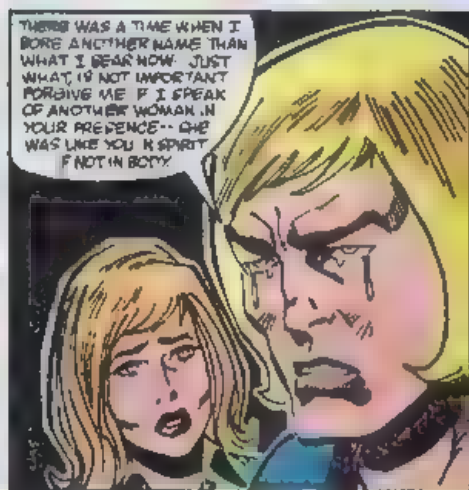
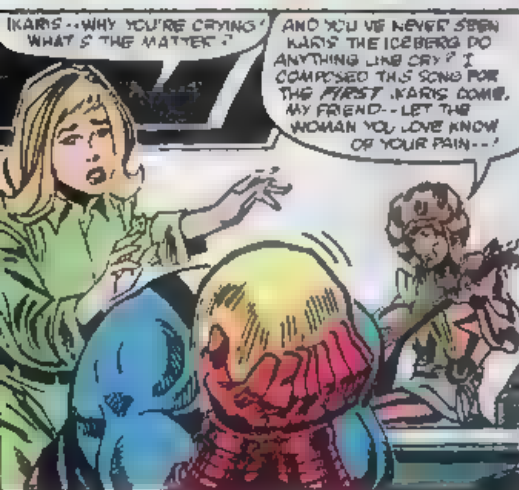
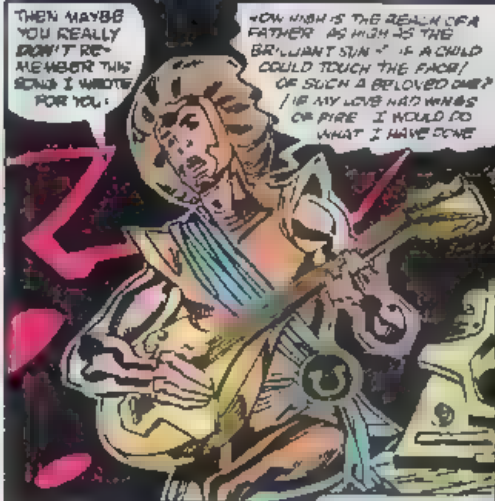
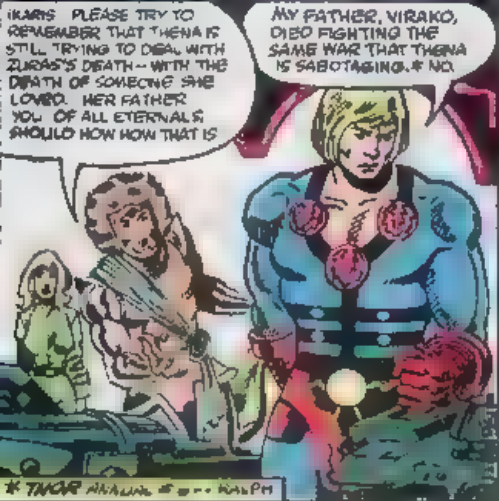
--ONCE ONE
POSSESSES
THE KEY!

THERE IT IS--
THE VERY SYMBOL
THAT KHARIS WEARS
UPON A BEEFY CHEST!
WE ARE VERY NEAR
OUR GOAL!

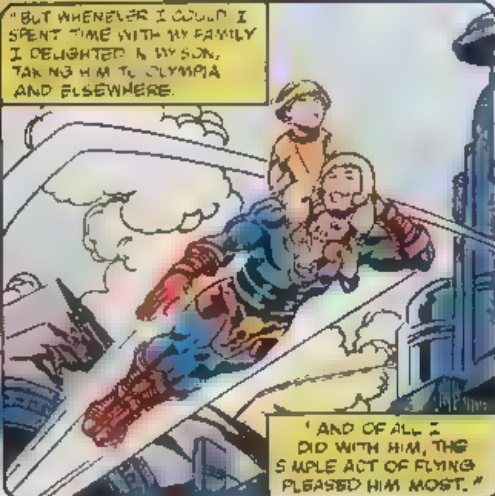
AND AS YOUT FALLS CA NEVER-CHANG NG QYMPA

ALL THE OTHERS SEND THE
SHIP TO DO SOMETHING MARGO--
WHY DON'T YOU JOIN THEM?



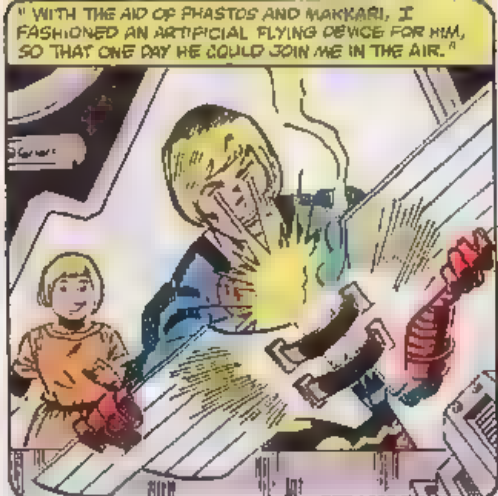


"BUT WHENEVER I COULD
I SPENT TIME WITH MY FAMILY
I DELIGHTED IN MY SON,
TAKING HIM TO OLYMPIA
AND ELSEWHERE.

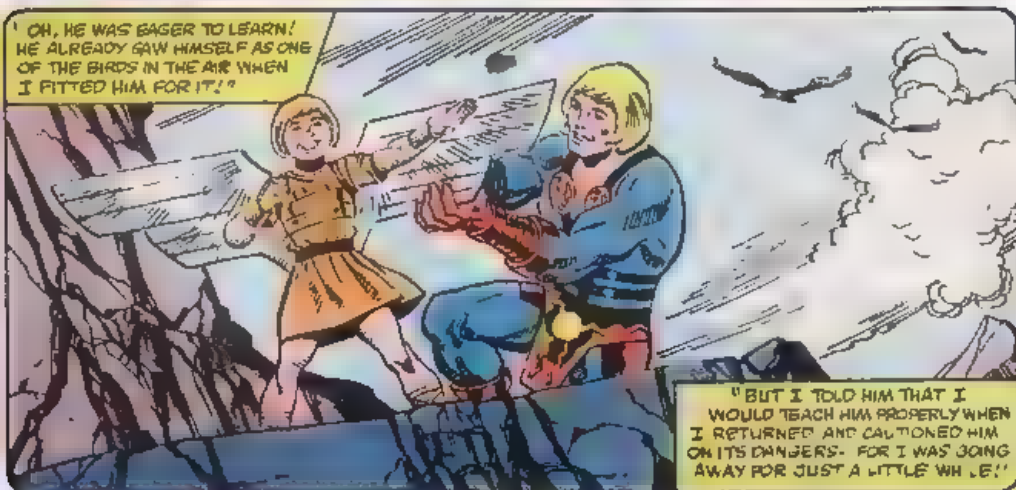


"AND OF ALL I
DID WITH HIM, THE
SIMPLE ACT OF FLYING
PLEASED HIM MOST."

"WITH THE AID OF PHASTOS AND MARKARI, I
FASHIONED AN ARTIFICIAL FLYING DEVICE FOR HIM,
SO THAT ONE DAY HE COULD JOIN ME IN THE AIR."

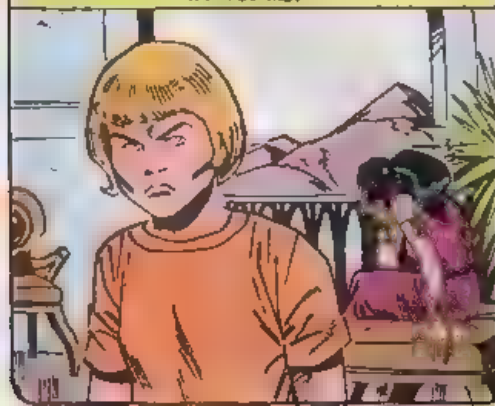


"OH, HE WAS EAGER TO LEARN!
HE ALREADY SAW HIMSELF AS ONE
OF THE BIRDS IN THE AIR WHEN
I FITTED HIM FOR IT!"

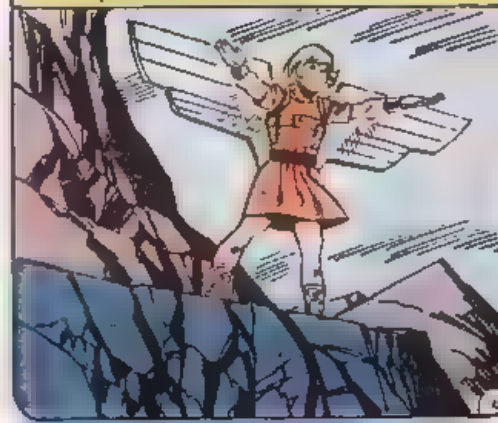


"BUT I TOLD HIM THAT I
WOULD TEACH HIM PROPERLY WHEN
I RETURNED AND CAUTIONED HIM
ON ITS DANGERS- FOR I WAS GOING
AWAY FOR JUST A LITTLE WHILE!"

"BUT THE 'LITTLE WHILE' TURNED INTO MONTHS--
YEARS AS I PURSUED THE DEVIANTS TO THE ENDS
OF THE EARTH. MY WIFE DESPAIRED AND MY SON WAS
CONVINCED THE DEMONS OF A FAR LAND HAD
TRAPPED ME."



"AND SO WE TOOK THE FLYING DEVICE AND PUT IT ON,
TO GO SEARCH FOR ME. COULD I HAVE BLAMED HIM,
HE WHO WAS SO EAGER FOR BOTH FLIGHT AND HIS
FATHER, AND SO LONG DENIED?"



HE SCARDED OFF INTO THE
SKY, AND THE SHEER ODD
OF FLYING MUST HAVE
TAKEN HIM FOR HIS CLIMBO
THE HEAVENS--



"-- UNTIL THE AIR AT LAST
BECAME TOO THIN FOR HIM
TO BREATHE, AND HE
FANTEO.



"HE DRIFTED THERE FOR
DAYS, UNTIL THE ULTRA-
VIOLET RAYS OF THE SUN
BURNED OUT THE CONTROLS."



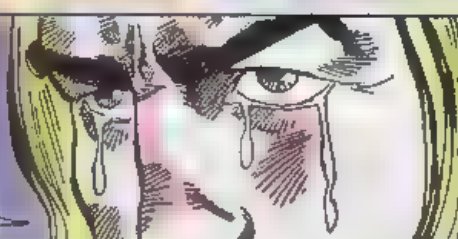
"-- AND THEN LIKE A METEOR,
HE PLUMMETED TO EARTH
TO LAND IN THE SEA."

"AT LAST, I RETURNED I
FOUND HIS SMALL BODY
AND BURIED IT."



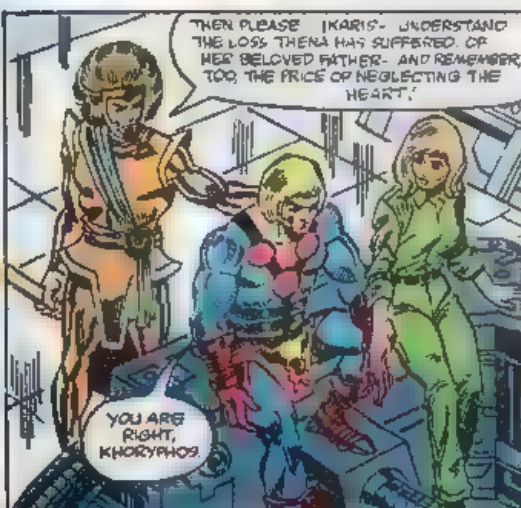
I HAD TO GIVE MY SON A MEMORIAL, AND
SO I TOOK THE NAME I HAD GIVEN HIM
[KARIS]. MANKIND TH NKS MONUMENTS
OF STONE OR METAL ARE FOR THE AGES,
BUT I HAVE SEEN THEM ALL CORRODE
AND CRUMBLE TO DUST

BUT SO
LONG AS I BORE HIS
NAME-- MY SON, MY BOY..
WOULD-- BE ALIVE--!



THEN PLEASE [KARIS] UNDERSTAND
THE LOSS THENA HAS SUFFERED. OF
HER BELOVED FATHER-- AND REMEMBER,
TOO, THE PRICE OF NEGLECTING THE
HEART."

YOU ARE
RIGHT,
KHORYPHOS



ALL I THINK ABOUT IS MENACE AND WAR-- AND
THE PRICE IS HIGH TO THOSE AROUND ME I WILL
TRY TO BE MORE CONSIDERATE



LATER BEYOND THE TOP
OF THE PYRAMID

THE FURTHER WE GO, MY LORD, THE
MORE INTENSE THE HEAT BECOMES!

IT'S BEGINNING TO FEEL ALMOST LIKE HOME,
SN'T IT? BUT THIS WRECKAGE MUST AT
LAST BE WHAT'S LEFT OF THE PYRAMID!

MY LORD, THIS SECTION IS
STILL INTACT AND THERE
ARE THE SYMBOLS AGAIN

THIS IS WHAT THE
PRIESTS TOLD US TO LOOK FOR.
YES! THESE CHAMBERS MUST
HAVE BEEN FORTIFIED TO
AN UNBELIEVABLE EXTENT!

ALL RIGHT, YOU TAPEWORMS
BRING UP THE MACHINE!

AND THERE IS THE ONE
DOOR WITH IKARIS'S
SYMBOL ON IT, RIPPED
OPEN EXACTLY AS THEY
PREDICTED! HOW COULD
THEY HAVE KNOWN
THIS?

BUT NO
MATTER--
PROCEED!

CAREFUL! INSIDE THERE IS THE DATA
WE EXTRACTED FROM THE BREAST OF
IKARIS THE ETERNAL HIMSELF
AND IT WILL GIVE US THE WORLD!

DON'T TELL
US OUR JOB,
MORON!

* THEY DID IT IN ISSUE #1 --
RALPH



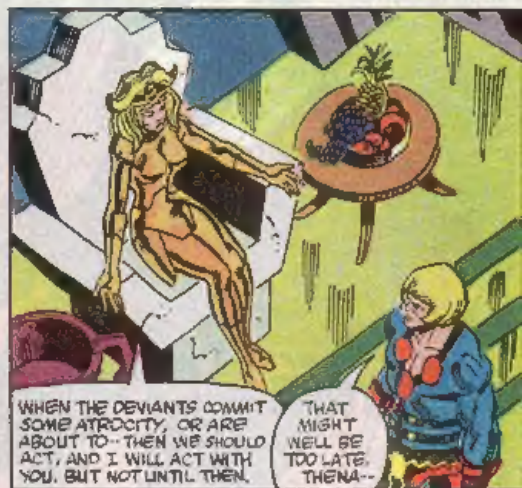
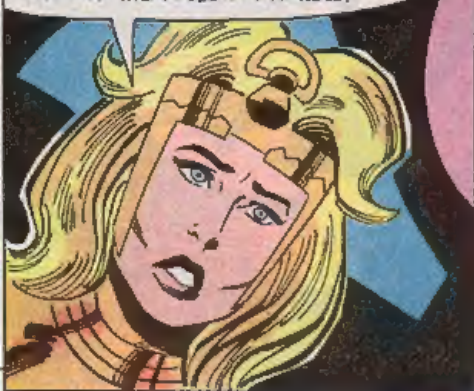
I FORGIVE,
YOU IKARIS.
OF COURSE
I DO.

WE HAVE EVERY CAUSE TO HATE THE
DEVIANTS FOR THE EVIL THEY HAVE
DONE -- BUT WE HAVE ALSO LIVED
WITH THEM ON THIS PLANET FOR
UNTOLD AGES. THERE'S GOT TO
BE A WAY OTHER THAN WAR.

EVEN
THE SPACE GODS
SAW FIT TO WAR
AGAINST THEM,
THEN A -- WE WERE
BOTH PRESENT AT
THE SECOND HOSTS'
DESTRUCTION OF
OLD LEMURIA.



YES, BUT EVEN THEN THE CELESTIALS DIDN'T
DESTROY THEM, IKARIS -- ALTHOUGH THEY EASILY
COULD HAVE! THEY HAVE A PLACE ON THE EARTH
EVEN AS WE DO -- AND PERHAPS A PLACE IN THE
PLANS OF THE CELESTIALS AS WELL!



WHEN THE DEVIANTS COMMIT
SOME ATROCITY, OR ARE
ABOUT TO -- THEN WE SHOULD
ACT, AND I WILL ACT WITH
YOU. BUT NOT UNTIL THEN.

THAT
MIGHT
WELL BE
TOO LATE,
THEN A --

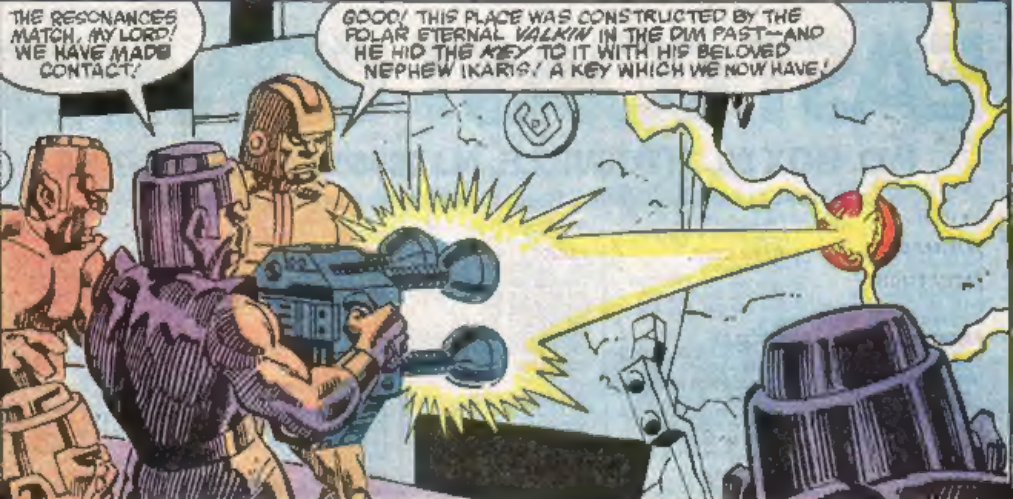
-- BUT I SEE YOUR POINT,
AS A LEADER, I MAKE A
GREAT BARROOM BRAWLER.

YOU'RE MORE THAN THAT,
IKARIS -- YOU'VE JUST
PROVED IT. SIT DOWN
AND WE'LL --



ACTIVATE THE MACHINE, SOLDIER --
AND WE'LL SEE WHAT IS TO BE
SEEN!





THE RESONANCES
MATCH, MY LORD!
WE HAVE MADE
CONTACT!

GOOD! THIS PLACE WAS CONSTRUCTED BY THE
POLAR ETERNAL WALKER IN THE DIM PAST--AND
HE HID THE KEY TO IT WITH HIS BELOVED
NEPHEW IKARIS! A KEY WHICH WE NOW HAVE!

AND ALTHOUGH THIS PLACE WAS
OBVIOUSLY OPENED ONCE, A
KEY CAN FIT MORE THAN
ONE LOCK--

-- ESPECIALLY IF THE KEY IS
SUBTLE ENOUGH! BEYOND
THE SIMPLE DESIGN, IKARIS'S
CHEST SYMBOLS HAD A
CURIOUS MOLECULAR SUB-
STRUCTURE --

-- A SUBSTRUCTURE
WHICH WE ARE DUPLICATING--
NOW!



KWHOOOM!

THAT OTHER
DOOR--IT BLEW
UP!

VERY
OBSERVANT,
LUGNER!



IKARIS -- WE CAN LIVE
TOGETHER--AND I MEAN
YOU AND ME AS MUCH AS
THE DEVIANTS AND
ETERNALS! PLEASE--

I SEE
YOUR POINT,
THENA.
I--

